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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Report of the Second Committee (Part VII)*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed Yousif MOHAMED (Sudan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 88 (see A/49/728, para. 2). Action to be taken on sub-item (f) was considered at the 28th, 29th and 31st meetings, on 16 and 23 November and on 1 December 1994. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/49/SR.28, 29 and 31).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.23

2. At the 28th meeting, on 16 November, the representative of Ghana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Programme for the Second Industrial Decade for Africa" (A/C.2/49/L.23).

3. At the 31st meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and orally revised it as follows:

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* The report of the Committee on this agenda item will be issued in several parts, under the symbol A/49/728 and addenda.

(a) In operative paragraph 5, the words "and actions towards achieving its goals" were replaced with the words "to promote economic growth and sustainable development, including by continuing to promote a favourable climate for foreign investment";

(b) In operative paragraph 7, the words "mechanisms and facilities aimed at mobilizing resources and promoting" were replaced with the words "and innovative measures to mobilize resources and promote".

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.23, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.39

5. At the 29th meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Industrial development cooperation" (A/C.2/49/L.39).

6. At the 31st meeting, on 1 December, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Raiko Raichev (Bulgaria), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, the words "and a positive investment and business climate" were inserted after the words "development cooperation";

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the words "and entrepreneurship" were inserted after the word "industrialization" and the word "productive" was inserted after the word "creating";

(c) In operative paragraph 6, the words "Calls upon" were replaced with the word "Invites", the word "and" was replaced with a comma after the words "Social Development", and the words "and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" were added at the end of the paragraph.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.39, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8, draft resolution II).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/177 of 22 December 1992, in which it adopted the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, and its decision 48/456 of 21 December 1993, in which it endorsed Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/65 of 30 July 1993,

Recalling also the Mauritius Declaration on Africa's Accelerated Industrial Recovery and Development in the Context of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002) and Beyond, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its eleventh meeting,

Taking cognizance of the establishment of the African Economic Community and the need to ensure its operation,

Recalling further the resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its fifth session, 1/ in particular resolution GC.5/Res.12 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, resolution GC.5/Res.16 on the industrialization of the least developed countries and resolution GC.5/Res.20, containing the Yaoundé Declaration, 2/ which emphasized that the organization should pay special attention to the industrialization of the least developed countries, and accord high priority to the industrialization of Africa and to the realization of the objectives of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa; 3/

2. Reaffirms the importance of industrialization as a dynamic instrument of growth, essential to sustainable economic and social development of developing countries, particularly in Africa;

3. Considers industrial development to be an important vehicle for poverty eradication, income and employment generation, social integration and vertical diversification;

4. Recognizes the need for increasing the integration of African industry in world manufacturing and, for that purpose, calls for the support of the

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1/ See GC.5/INF.4.

2/ Also reproduced in A/49/347, appendix.

3/ A/49/372.

international community in achieving the goals of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

5. Also recognizes the responsibility of the African countries in the implementation of the Decade, and calls upon them to continue to undertake appropriate measures to promote economic growth and sustainable development, including by continuing to promote a favourable climate for foreign investment;

6. Requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to give full assistance to improving the competitiveness of the industrial sector in Africa and to formulating measures to improve it in the light of the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;

7. Also requests the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in cooperation with the African Development Bank and other subregional, regional and international financial and banking institutions, to provide support, especially in the development of new and innovative measures to mobilize resources and promote foreign direct investment to African countries;

8. Calls upon the Economic Commission for Africa and the Organization of African Unity to facilitate cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in order to provide support to improving African industrial cooperation and to integrating the African Economic Community into the industrial sphere, particularly in the areas of industrial policy, technology, human resource development, industrial investment, small-scale industries, enterprise development and institutional infrastructure, all of these being essential for poverty eradication, employment generation, social integration and vertical integration;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Industrial development cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, 4/ the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 5/ and the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 6/

4/ Resolution S-18/3, annex.

5/ Resolution 45/199, annex.

6/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

Recalling also its resolutions 45/196 of 21 December 1990, 46/146 of 17 December 1991 and 47/153 of 18 December 1992 on industrial development cooperation and the diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/44 of 31 July 1992 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Recalling further the resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its fifth session, 7/ in particular resolutions GC.5/Res.20, in which it adopted the Yaoundé Declaration, 8/ and GC.5/Res.12 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Taking note of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on industrial development cooperation 9/ and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, 10/

1. Stresses the importance of industrialization as a dynamic instrument of growth that is essential to the rapid economic and social development of developing countries;

2. Emphasizes the importance of industrial development cooperation and a positive investment and business climate, at the international, regional, subregional and national levels, in promoting the expansion, diversification and modernization of productive capacities in developing countries;

3. Reaffirms the essential role of industrialization and entrepreneurship as a means of achieving socially beneficial economic development by eradicating poverty, creating productive employment and facilitating social integration, including the integration of women into the development process;

4. Also reaffirms the central coordinating role played by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the United Nations system in the field of the industrial development of developing countries;

5. Recalls the process of restructuring that is currently under way in the United Nations system and welcomes in that context the recent reform and restructuring of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, which should enable it, in promoting industrial development, to respond effectively to the needs of the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them and those in Africa, by providing high-quality services that are focused on clearly defined objectives;

7/ See GC.5/INF.4.

8/ Also reproduced in A/49/347, appendix.

9/ See A/49/347.

10/ See A/49/372.

6. Invites the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to contribute, in the context of their programmes and activities, to achieving the aims and action programmes adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 11/ and the International Conference on Population and Development, 12/ and calls upon them to contribute to the preparations for the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

11/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I, Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference.

12/ See Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (A/CONF.171/13).